

Greenway Committee Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2015

Committee and Staff present: Lucy Crown, Forrest Merithew, Jim Grode, Amy Vanden Heuvel, Mary Weber, Kim Williams, Rich Lee

Public present: Deborah Gurriere, Glen Locascio, Philip Ellis (see contact information below)

1. **Call to order 3:30**
2. **Adoption of agenda: Forrest moved, Mary seconded, adopted unanimously**
3. **Staff updates**
 - a. Lucy spoke with Real Estate about using Armory property for goat path, shouldn't be a problem. Mary: What are next steps? Lucy: Probably moving fence, nothing decided.
 - b. Beaucatcher presentation has been changed to public input online.
 - c. Designer did walk-through of FBR West property, terrain is challenging, considering whether to move trail up hill on north end, but will have to join New Belgium Greenway. Mary: Was scorching hot even in spring, needs trees. Kim: Needs public process with neighborhood and stakeholder input
 - d. Website: Lucy has collected input from committee members about what to include.
4. **Glen Locascio presentation on Beaverdam Greenway**—challenges include many privately owned parcels, key locations include YMCA, Jones Elementary, tie-in to Kimberly, Beaver Lake, Lewis Memorial Cemetery. Potential benefits include walk to bus at Golden Living, better walking in an area without bus stops. Right-of-way is very tight, may have to be combination of on-street path and paths near creek. Mary: What do some property owners of the smaller properties say? Glen: It's very tight in some spots. Al Kopf did a walk-through and put together a brief report on the problem spots. With Bob Roepnack in process of forming Beaverdam Valley Neighborhood Association.
5. **Mary and Jim Presentation on Ecusta Trail**—16-mile rail-trail in Henderson County from Hendersonville to Brevard. Members of the Ecusta Trail are asking different municipalities to do an endorsement of the trail. Transylvania County is not endorsing. Jim: Could eventually connect to Buncombe Trail system. Rail line would retain control of railway and could convert it back to railroad if large industry came in. Kim moved to approve, Mary seconded, all voted in favor with John abstaining.
6. **Mary, Jim, Kim and Rich on Feasibility Study and Funding Issues**—Feasibility funding not guaranteed to go through budget, committee members have been meeting with council members to outline our process for submitting requests for funding and push urgency. Mary has met with Chris Pelly, Marc Hunt, and Gordon Smith; Rich will be meeting with Mayor Manheimer and Cecil Bothwell; Jim met Jan Davis; Kim is meeting Gwen Wisler. Rich proposes op-ed or guest column on behalf of GC, Kim suggests article with interviews of affected neighborhood groups. Forrest will reach out to news outlets to see if they'll do a story. If not, Rich will do op-ed. Several committee members: Are requests ranked? Lucy: Not officially.
7. **Mary on rescheduling meetings**—Rich moved to change meetings to first Thursday, Kim seconded. Adopted unanimously. May meeting will be 5/7

8. **Outreach report**—Kim made connections to East Asheville neighborhoods, suggests next year GC members could request to be speakers. Kim and other members will have a presence at Race to the Taps and Mountain Sports. Mary: We need banner based on Greenways Recommendation map, either vinyl banner or laminated. Discussion of
9. **Committee Updates**
 - a. Multimodal (Jim)—most business was street related. Multimodal plan continues to move forward. In planning process to do multimodal retreat, hoping for discussion of roles of committees vs. commissions, probably in May.
 - b. Friends of Connect Buncombe (Kim)—Marketing and branding kickoff next Wednesday, April 15th. Feasibility Study for Bent Creek drew 300 people to Arboretum meeting.
 - c. Collaborative Greenway Partners (Mary)—Meeting next week
 - d. Asheville Parks & Greenway Foundation (Lucy)—have offered foundation as resource to raise money for the whitewater park, haven't met recently.
 - e. Parks & Rec board (Forrest)—haven't met recently. National audit was successful.
 - f. Friends of Hominy Creek (Amy)—spending grant money, buying goats for trail maintenance, kiosks being completed. Have some erosion issues, someone coming to look at that.
10. **Public Comment II**
 - a. Mrs. Gurriere commented that rescheduling of Beaucatcher Mountain Greenway process is confusing, has not been a very transparent process. Says some community members have not been contacted yet.

Citizen attendees

- Glen Locascio glocascio@nccommerce.com
- Deborah Gurriere dmgurriere@aol.com
- Philip Ellis philipaellis@gmail.com

Adjourn 4:55pm